Theft of uranium rock ore powder from the UCIL Laboratory

*358. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 40 packets of urnanium rock ore powder were recently stolen from the laboratory of the Uranium Corporation of India at Jaduguda;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to a chance discovery, some packets of the uranium rock ore powder were recovered by the police in a village; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to see that the theft of such vital and sensitive items does not take place from the laboratories of the Uranium Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The entire Mine and Mill Complex at Jaduguda is under the security of the Central Industrial Security Force. The packets stolen were ordinary rock ore sample powder and not vital and sensitive items like uranium concentrate (yellow cake). The area where uranium concentrate is produced is fenced and guarded round the clock. However, action is being taken to further strengthen the security at Jaduguda.

T.V. serial Discovery of India

*359. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has decided to produce a serial titled Discovery of India;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has decided to give this project to a person without inviting proposals from a number of reputed producers thus violating their own norms;

(d) if so, the name of the person who has been entrusted with the making of this serial and what amount is being given to him; and

(e) whether Government propose to invite proposals from other producers on this subject and if not, the reasons for giving preferential treatment to one person?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (e) To coincide with the birth centenary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Doordarshan had approved the proposal of Sri Shyam Benegal to produce a 52 part programme based upon the Discovery of India. The concept approval for the programme was given in 1985 much before the revised guidelines for sponsored programmes were issued in July, 1986. These guidelines generally relate to the sponsored programmes. Also, Doordarshan reserves the right to invite eminent producers/directors with established credentials to produce its more prestigious programmes. The financial details of the proposal are still being worked out.

Integrated approach to all poverty alleviation programmes

*360. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Govern-